

## Topeka State Journal

An Independent Newspaper.  
By FRANK P. MACLENNAN.

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MEMBER:  
Associated Press.  
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American Newspaper Publishers' Association.

After all, it will be the voters and not the talkers or the betting men who will decide next Tuesday's election.

A yellow streak has been discovered in the mosquito. At least it is found to be afraid of anything yellow. "Wear yellow and bluff the mosquito" is the slogan of scientists who are fighting this little pest and who have discovered the carnivorous insect's antipathy to that primary color. Their discoveries are supported by the testimony of United States marines, who have been in the Philippines. They attribute their immunity from mosquito-bite and malarial infection to the fact that their khaki uniform is of a yellow hue.

The election will be satisfactory to all of us on one score. We'll be glad that it's over.

If the cost of living keep on increasing, perhaps we shall have to ask for European contributions for suffering Americans.

The chief advantage of heckling a presidential candidate is that it is so cheap and easy a way to gain a little prominence as to be within the reach of all.

When a voter goes over to the wrong candidate the act is called a "rip." When he comes out for the right one it is considered an evidence of good judgment and sound conviction.

Among dastardly eleven-hour tactics, says the New York Post, look out for a forged telegram inviting Mr. Roosevelt to speak for the Republicans in Wisconsin, and a forged telegram inviting Mr. Bryan to speak for the Democrats in Nebraska.

The facility with which German submarines cross the Atlantic both ways is calculated to put a crimp in England's assumed title of mistress of the seas.

Only once in four years do the people find out the frightful condition of the country and the dangers which beset the citizens on all sides.

Preliminary elections are being held by newspapers and business concerns throughout the country, but the results are of little value owing to the fact that there is no way by which to prevent "repeating."

That more or less astute political observer, Sam Blythe, takes up several columns of space this week in the Saturday Evening Post to tell its readers that he cannot make even a reasonable guess regarding the outcome of the election. And Sam is some guesser at that.

One way to stop the advance in prices would be to put more value in the gold pieces and other forms of money. Why not a 6-cent nickel?

Some one suggested making bread of potatoes and then the price of potatoes went up.

The Democrats are predicting that if Wilson be elected it will mean the permanent retirement of Colonel Roosevelt from leadership in American politics. Considering their experience with Colonel Bryan, this view seems scarcely warranted.

In the Panama Canal Record for October 11 computation is published to show that the aggregate length of the 149 ships passing thru the canal in July last was 53,905 feet, or approximately 10.2 miles. The average length of the vessels was 269.32 feet and the average draft was 20.9 feet. The vessel having the largest draft was the Ohioan, drawing 23.4 feet, and the vessel having the smallest draft was the Panama railroad barge No. 71, which draws only two feet.

The sentiment: "All's fair in love and war" apparently has been extended to include politics. Will there ever be a sense of fairness in the discus-

sion of party matters by partisans? says Leslie's. Probably not as long as the people fail to follow closely the acts of our legislative bodies and accept as truth what stump speakers tell them. Distortion of the record by party spokesmen at political conventions is so notorious that we all expect it. If good legislation has been accomplished the party in power always claims the credit. Has bad legislation been enacted, then the party in power is not always easy to find. But party orators immediately twist facts to suit their argument. They tell half truths which sometimes are worse than falsehoods and then chuckle over the ease with which they can "put it over" the credulous voter.

### HEADLINE PROSPERITY.

The word "boom" is scarcely adequate longer to express the condition of business of all kinds in this country. The situation is set forth by Henry Cleave in his Financial Review as follows:

The market has shown further sensational advances in both commodities and securities. Wheat and cotton have both touched extraordinary levels, and the reactions occurred, the outlook for a continuation of high prices is unchanged. The principal minerals show marked strength, and the iron trade continues unchecked in its headlong prosperity. Steel shares continue making fabulous earnings. Shipping engaged in foreign trade is doing likewise, and many an old vessel has lately sold for ten to fifteen times its original value.

This country is building ships with feverish energy, and we might have established a very respectable merchant marine had our legislators not derided the business they so successfully destroyed. Industrial and commercial activities are at high water mark. Bank clearings last week were about 40 per cent larger than a year ago, when returns were breaking records.

Railroad traffic is very heavy, earnings showing increases of fully 10 per cent and over compared with a year ago. November dividend and interest payments will exceed \$154,000,000 which is about \$10,000,000 ahead of the previous year. There is an active demand for the domestic investments and good bonds are readily absorbed. Attention is now being turned to desirable preferred stocks which have been somewhat neglected owing to the enormous earnings of leading industrial. Speculation in the latter continues upon a tremendous scale but prices are now so high that further advances usually bring out fresh realizations.

Railroad shares have been more active on both investment and speculative account, and their better position is being gradually realized.

The average American is ready and willing to try almost anything, once. Cities differ little from individuals. A few years ago, following a disastrous flood Dayton, Ohio, inaugurated the experiment of hiring a man to manage her municipal affairs. There are now forty municipal officials in the United States who are styled "city managers," under the new commission-manager form of government. They are the professional chief executives of their respective municipalities, each with appointive power over the city's entire administrative establishment. They are not popularly elected, but hired for reasons of fitness and for an indefinite tenure by a small elected commission of five local men.

### OUR NEW CUSTOMERS.

Exports from the port of New York to foreign countries during the last week of October were nearly double what they were in the corresponding week last year.

Not nearly all of the goods sent abroad goes to countries engaged in war and munitions apparently form only a small part of the whole.

Exports of automobiles to Iceland are a striking feature of the month's trade. A compilation by the foreign trade department of the National City Bank of New York shows in a single week exports to Iceland of nearly \$3,000 worth of automobiles and parts thereof, while the fact that the value of "parts" equals that of finished machines suggests that the number of automobiles in Iceland is probably greater than would be supposed. The entire area of Iceland is but 40,000 miles or about equal to the state of Kentucky, and a large proportion is by reason of climatic conditions absolutely uninhabitable and roadless. Yet its population of \$5,000 took from the United States in the fiscal year 1916 over a quarter of a million dollars worth of merchandise against \$75,000 the year before the beginning of the war. For the single month of August the total was \$45,000 against but \$4,000 in the same month two years ago. Ordinarily it takes most of its imports of about \$1,000,000 from the mother country, Denmark.

This increase in the demands of Iceland for United States merchandise is illustrative of conditions in many other parts of the world which have found difficulty in obtaining their merchandise from the usual source, Europe, by reason of the war, and are thus turning to the United States. This is true of British South Africa, which increased its imports of our products nearly 50 per cent, while to British East Africa the exports of 1916 were five times as great as in 1914, to New Zealand double those of 1914, to the British East Indies as a whole in 1916 60 per cent more in value than in 1914, to Egypt four times the

normal, to the Dutch East Indies three times as much as last year, to Morocco four times as much, and to Madagascar ten times as much as in the year before the war, while in Italian Africa, Dutch and French West Indies the exports have greatly increased.

The wheat has all been harvested, and the latest government crop reports indicate a total production of not more than 550,000,000 bushels. This will leave but little wheat for export, and on account of the foreign demand it will be natural to expect high and increasingly high prices. It would not be surprising, says Farm Life, if wheat reached extreme figures during the coming winter. Corn usually trails along after wheat; hogs are high now, with every prospect of going higher. On the whole, it looks as if we're going to have a very comfortable season for the man who has something to sell.

### GLOBE SIGHTS

[From the Atchison Globe.]

A woman's minute usually consists of 1,200 seconds.

The smaller the town the straighter a man has to walk.

Some men who are good talkers can neither do the housework nor the work of a man.

When a man talks of principles, he is so apt to mean his prejudices.

It is a boy's notion that more time is wasted in washing than in any other way.

An Atchison man is said to have a brand new head. At least, he has never used it.

Jude Johnson's father didn't quit whittling when he was baptized, and almost drowned.

If you have a fool streak, and every one has, don't make it your specialty or life work.

The average man says a good deal while he is angry that he regrets as soon as he gets over it.

If you are alighted, there is no use to hope to win favorable attention by showing you feel that way.

No woman thinks so little of her husband that she wouldn't hate to see some other woman steal him.

Even some men who are regarded as very smart are simple-minded enough to believe that their attitudes are due to them.

The only excuse a preacher has to offer to his wife, when he leaves home is: "I must go to a committee meeting." Some laymen often long for a good excuse like that.

### ON SPUR OF THE MOMENT

BY ROY E. MOULTON.

They're Forty Now.  
The girls of twenty years ago were clothes quite modest and demure. They'd perish rather than endure to wear what now is all the rage.

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## INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

BY W. T. ELLIS

For November 5 is "Shipwrecked on Melita."—Acts 27:23 to 28:19.

The Hero of the Melite Cross.

Iron Crosses and Victoria Crosses and Crosses of the Legion of Honor are mentioned when these things in his dispatches from Europe. In this old, old message from Malta, we see the knightly figure of a hero who may be said to have won the Melite Cross and the cross that stands for the fourfold qualities of Reverence, Obedience, Courage and Service. Whoso wears a Melite cross should think of the Apostle Paul and of these four virtues, inscribed one on each arm of the cross. There is enough "action" for a Sunday school lesson. At first, we see the lumbering Alexandrian grain ship, and then the "Melite Cross" or northeasterly storm. Dr. Luke's wonderfully accurate account of this hurricane is verified by many records; sample of this is the death of 200 persons in a Malta harbor. The British government reports say that it has been a constant menace to ships, and that the new Melite Cross, a small cross, was built in Paul's case the mariners were "at sea" in the coldest of weather. The ship was a man-of-war. When we were boys we had difficulty with the fellows who would not do their share of the work. When we were boys we had difficulty with the fellows who would not do their share of the work. When we were boys we had difficulty with the fellows who would not do their share of the work.

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events down out of the realm of unreality. It is hard to realize that that Doctor Luke wrote in the Book of the Acts is an accurately historical as the events we read about in our newspapers. Paul was a real man, who swam ashore thru rough water from the wreck of the ship on to a real island, at a point that may to this day be visited.

Kindlings, a Viper and a Man.

Since the Maltese who watched the escape of the shipwrecked crew and passengers were neither Greeks nor Romans, they were, in the speech of the day, called "barbarians" or "foreigners." They received the strangers with more courtesy than is often shown to aliens in our own land. The weather was cold and rainy, so the natives kindled a fire for the comfort of the strangers.

Easily first among the bedraggled crew that had been driven ashore by the storm was Paul, the deliverer of them all. He might reasonably have held a levee and received the congratulations and thanks of his shipmates.

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